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ETCETERA & THE COMIC READER

COMIC ECONOMICS/

And What Price Are We Today??

On Friday, April 21, the President's Wage-Price Control Board ruled that 14 of Marvel's titles including The Fantastic Four, Iron Man, and Ringo Kid, must go to a 15¢ price tag.

Marvel's lawyers and M.C.Goodwin are currently in Washington contesting the decision. Should they win their appeal then there will be no change in the price/size set-up at Marvel. If the appeal fails then Marvel will be forced to go to the 25¢/48 page size. The 15¢ comic book is an impossibility. As I go to press, no decision has been made. The original decision was reported over UPI and the NBC evening news so I suggest that all comic fans watch one of those sources for further news. In any case, the denouément will be reported in next month's Etc/TCR.

Speculation among New York pros is that National would not have to go to the 25¢ size because they shifted during Phase II, Marvel shifted during Phase I.

The future can go three ways. 1) Marvel & National remaining at 20¢; 2) Both companies at 25¢; or 3) Marvel at 25¢ & NPP at 20¢. The first and third possibilities are deemed the most likely by many NY pros. No one, you see, is quite sure of the Price Board's rationalé. They may feel that the raise to 20¢ is unwarranted, in which case both companies would have to change. In that case, tho, it seems likely that they would have served notice to both. Therefore, it is presumed that the problem is the fact that Marvel changed during the Freeze, not during Phase 2. As you can see, no one knows what the hell is going on!

If either company changes, here's how it stands: NPP could change very quickly, losing perhaps a week's worth of time on the average book. This is because they have backlogged reprints for some of the books and a larger production set-up.The speed at which Marvel could change depends on whether they'd use new story & art material or reprints.

No one here in NY is in an uproar about this because the Price Board will give Marvel (and NPP if they are affected) time to return to the 25¢ size, in all probability. So both companies are continuing their day-to-day business on the basis of 20¢ mags. When the Board hands down its final decision, everyone will start making plans to convert if necessary.

The entire matter has the industry on edge because the final decision will pretty much decide the shape of comics for the next decade. Should both companies go to 25¢, even when the controls are lifted they would probably remain at the larger size. Most pros prefer the large size because of the greater freedom that it allows, yet the businessmen are unsatisfied with it. The result--a situation whose solution cannot possibly please both factions in the industry. I can't predict anything for the future,nor can anyone else this side of the Price Board.

So what will happen to comics? No one knows. The underground might emerge as the major force in the future. Comic art might die out. We must merely wait and watch and listen. And, perhaps, pray...

More in next month's special 24 page convention edition (not a double issue--just an extra large one to push sales at cons).

Now, onto the news.....

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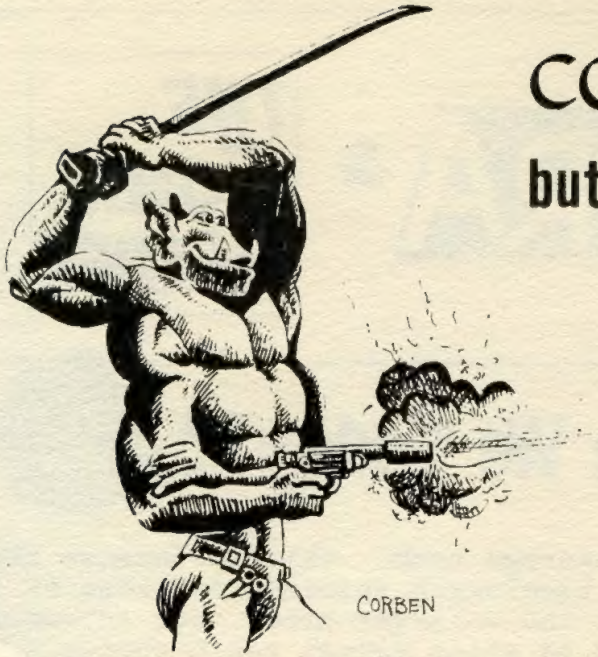

COMPETITION IS FIERCE--

but Mid-America Con I can take it!

"BIG MAC" JUNE 16-17-18

WHAT OTHER CON BEING HELD THIS SUMMER IS OFFERING SUCH AN IMPRESSIVE LINE-UP OF ACTIVITIES?

GUESTS OF HONOR: Philip Jose Farmer, two-time HUGO winner and author of the forthcoming TARZAN ALIVE; and James Gunn, president of the Science Fiction Writers of America and author of THE IMMORTALS, which inspired the TV series "The Immortal".

THREE BIG ART SHOWS: Vern Coriell, Burroughs Bibliophiles founder and nationally known Burroughs collector, will present an unprecedented display of 100 framed originals by fantasy masters Finlay, Bok, St. John, Frazetta, Krenkel, and Paul, to name just a few. This will be the first showing of these masters at a convention.

Richard Corben, famed fan and underground artist, will present the first art show of his originals at Mid-America Con I. These pieces include virtually every strip original from such fanzines and undergrounds as ANOMALY, FUNNYWORLD, FANTAGOR, SLO-DEATH, ROWLF, UP FROM THE DEEP, and SKULL COMICS. Original Corben paintings will also be on display.

Russ Myers, nationally syndicated cartoonist and creator of BROOM HILDA, will present a display of originals of his own strip as well as TERRY AND THE PIRATES, KRAZY KAT, WASH TUBBS, CAPTAIN EASY, DICK TRACY, PEANUTS, ALLEY OOP, MANDRAKE, BEETLE BAILEY, THE PHANTOM, and BARNEY GOOGLE, to name just a few.

FILMS, FILMS, FILMS: We will present two all-night film festivals at the con, the first of which will feature six of Ray Harryhausen's masterpieces: MIGHTY JOE YOUNG, IT CAME FROM BENEATH THE SEA, 7TH VOYAGE OF SINBAD, JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS, MYSTERIOUS ISLAND, and FIRST MEN IN THE MOON. The con's film program, now over 50 hours, will also include: DESTINATION MOON, ROCKETSHIP X-M, FLIGHT TO MARS, FORBIDDEN PLANET, THE LAST MAN ON EARTH, THE BLACK PIRATE, Barrymore's DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE, Rathbone's THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, Bogart's classic SAHARA, and Orson Welles' monumental CITIZEN KANE. Mid-America Con I will also be the first con to present the complete Kansas University science fiction documentary series, introduced by GOH James Gunn, the series' coordinator.

AND THE CON GOES ON: with a costume ball/dance with an original Richard Corben airbrush painting as first prize; banquet dinner with our guests of honor and autograph party following; an old radio listening room replaying the greats of radio's Golden Age; a free bheer bash on the night before the con; two spacious hucksters' rooms; auctions; and a few surprises we're saving for the con itself.

CONVENTION SITE: The elegant Hotel Continental in the heart of downtown Kansas City. The K.C. Playboy Club is located in the penthouse; admission with hotel room key.
ROOM RATES: Single: $14.50; double: $19.50.

MEMBERSHIPS: Advance attending: $3.50; at the door: $5.00;
supporting: $1.50; banquet tickets: $6.50.

Mid-America Con I, June 16-17-18, is a project of the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society. Convention chairman: Ken Keller. For free con and hotel brochures please write:

MID-AMERICA CON I P.O. Box 6934 Kansas City, Mo. 64130

NEWS

BEASTS THAT ACT LIKE MEN! MEN WHO ACT LIKE BEASTS! SEE THE WORLD OF..
DC
20¢
KAMANDI
NO. 1 NOV. 30586
THE LAST BOY ON EARTH!
1st DC ISSUE
A NEW SENSATIONAL DC JACK KIRBY BLOCKBUSTER

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The next new title from the house of Kirby will be Kamandi, The Last Boy On Earth and it is exactly what the title says. It is scheduled for release in the late summer.

Speaking of Kirby, a slim chance for the revival of The New Gods remains, according to publisher Infantino. No matter what there will be a gap in publication after the 11th issue.

There will be three issues of Weird Mystery under the original format and then a decision will be made on the fate of the book. It might end up either all new, reprint, or cancelled altogether.

Archie Goodwin has taken over the editorial chores on Star Spangled War and GI Combat in order to give Joe Kubert more time to work on Tarzan and other new books. Goodwin may get more books as time goes on.

Carmine Infantino returns to the drawing board to do the first installment of a new series (the titles secret) which will begin appearing later this year in Action Comics. The story is scripted by Len Wein. Neal Adams, Dick Giordano, and Murphy Anderson all asked to ink it, but Dick Giordano is likeliest to get the job according to the book's editor, Julie Schwartz.

Several DC titles that are now bimonthly will be boosed up to monthly frequency in the near future.

Adventure Comics is becoming a bimonthly for the first time in 1946. The reason is that Supergirl is being removed from the book to get her own mag under a different editor. The new Adventure begins with No. 425 and will include many new and old series, all with new outlooks. Deadman by Neal Adams is a probable entry for an early issue if Neal can fit it into his busy schedule.

Wanted will be using a lot of beautiful golden age material in the future. The third issue includes a Kubert Hawkman story, a Meskin Vigilante, and an early 6-page Doctor Fate. The decision to make the book into a new material title is still in limbo.

Vince Colletta has been appointed 'art editor' for the National romance books. This will give Dorothy Woolfolk more time to work on a new project and some new books.

There will be two more issues of Laurel & Hardy with English reprints in the back. Then the future will be plotted. The new stories will be pencilled by Albano, and inked by Scarpelli.

Reed Crandall is doing the artwork on Beyond The Farthest Star, the new back feature for Tarzan.

NPP and the town of Metropolis will be producing a series of special books on Superman. These volumes will be 10 1/2" by 14", 64 pages, color covers and centerfolds, with the rest b/w wash. They will cost $2 each and will feature new stories by Swan & Anderson, reprint material, photos from the movies and

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serials, and a multitude of other features on all the aspects of Superman. The books will be available only direct from National or in Metropolis. I'll report ordering procedure and the like when it is all set.

The inking on Fafhrd will not be done Tony DeZuniga as reported here last ish. We have heard that Neal Adams may be the inker.

Information Retreval: John Calnan, a new artist to the comics field, is also the art director of a New York agency.

Tony DeZuniga is doing another Supergirl story for Adventure. In the last Supergirl in Adventure she's quitting her tv job.

A new humor title is in the works from Joe Orlando's busy little editorial cubicle. The mag is reported to be a new type of humor mag, veering away from the pseudo-Mad style has been growing lately. Some of the work for the book will be by Sergio Aragones.

MARVEL NEWS

Marvel is starting two new mystery mags, each to contain a mixture of new and reprint material with the accent on the new. The titles are Journey Into Mystery and Chamber Of Chills . Both will be out in late summer (August or so).

Coming in those books are adaptations by Archie Goodwin, among other things. Also new stories by Frank Brunner.

The Solomon Kane story is still just "in the works" with Ralph Reese busily pencilling it.

Steve Englehart is taking over the scripting on The Avengers from Roy Thomas. Roy is shifting over to the Hulk. This is because Archie Goodwin is cutting back his output.

Gunhawks, a new Marvel wetern book about a new team of western gunfighters, will be written by Gary Friedrich and drawn Syd Shores. Out in July.

The X-Men will be in one or two issues of Marvel Team-Up beginning with No. 4.

Western Kid has been cancelled because of poor sales. It is being replaced by Wyatt Earp, an old Marvel western title which lasted 29 issues. The Wyatt Earp stories are by several artists, but most of it is by Dick Ayers.

Another new Marvel is War Of The Worlds, taking off from the HG Wells classic. Both Gil Kane and Neal Adams are scheduled to do art for the book. No release date has been set.

Rumor hath it that Marvel is expanding into the girls books field. Details eventually.

Man-Thing and Jekyll & Hyde have not been scheduled for release in any of the mystery books nor has any work begun on the Jekyll & Hyde strip.

Definate assignments on The Shadow have not been given out.

Steve Mitchell is a new inker at the Marvel bullpen. He's done one ish of Marvel Team-Up and will be given more assignments in the predictable future.

Gerry Conway is the new scripter on Kull.

Lil Pals is a new Marvel reprint title which will feature funny animals material.

Wayne Boring, the man who did Superman for two decades, is doing Gullivar Of Mars and Captain Marvel. Both books are in the Coming Comics listing.

Alan Weiss did a short Sub-Mariner story for an upcoming issue to ease Bill Everett's schedule. Script by Mike Friedrich.

NEW CONAN STORY: The July 6 issue of the sf mag FANTASTIC will feature a newConan story by Carter & deCamp. Illos by Harry Roland, cover by Jeff Jones. Also in that ish is a review of Conan cimix by Ted White. /// A source connected with Robert Bloch reports that Marvel has purchased the rights to adapt his short stories. /// MAC1(pg2) dealers tables: $3.50 per day, $7.50 for all 3 days.

NEWS CLIPS

ACBA is running their own awards that fans can vote in--The Billys. Pay $5, become a supporting member, and voting is one of your privileges. Awards to be presented at July Con. /// Sylvia Cortez and James Sandusky were indicted by a federal grand jury for mail fraud in connection with their supposed sales of comics. ///

Coming Comics

For new readers: Coming Comics lists, in order; TITLE (number, cover date). Description of contents. (On sale date).

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (155, September). Archie Goodwin & Herb Trimpe are the staffers on a story featuring "The Shaper of Worlds" and Captain Axis. A ton of crossthreads and plots are in this one. (6/6)

KID COLT, OUTLAW (162, September). (6/6)

DAREDEVIL (91, September). Gerry Conway script, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer art. More on the mystery of who is Mister Fear. (6/6)

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (19, September). Rawhide Kid, Two-Gun Kid, and Kid Colt. The stories that have been running of the first two of the three characters are 50s goodies. (6/6)

IRON MAN (50, September). Mike Friedrich script, George Tuska & Vince Colletta art. Princess Python (remember her from the Ringmaster's Circus Of Fear?) attacks Iron Man. More on Marianne's visions of Iron Man's doom and the appearance of a villain called the Cyborg Sinister. (6/6)

WESTERN GUNFIGHTERS (11, September). The Black Rider by Syd Shores, The Apache Kid, and Matt Slade, Gunfighter. (6/6)

WHERE MONSTERS DWELL (17, September). (6/6)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (32, September). MSH comes back after almost a year's gap in publication. The book is now a bi-monthly featuring Sub-Mariner and The Hulk. This issue: The Hulk -- "Trapped In The Lair Of The Leader" from Astonish 69 by Lee & Kirby; and Subby in "To Walk Among Men" from Astonish 77, by Lee & Colan with a guest shot by Hank Pym and Janet Van Dyne. (6/6)

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SUB-MARINER (53, September). Bill Everett script and art on the conclusion of Subby's battle with Sunfire. Then there's also a character called the Dragon-Lord. Rounding out the issue is a 50s Sub-Mariner reprint. (6/13)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (37, September). Concluding the Fantastic Four's most famous story--"The Startling Saga Of The Silver Surfer" by Lee & Kirby from FF 50. (6/13)

THOR (203, September). Gerry Conway and John Buscema continue to tie up the plot threads as Ego-Prime is defeated and Odin's plan is revealed. Plus the beginning of a new plot-thread. (6/13)

SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION (6, September). Sgt. Fury in "The Death Ray Of Dr.Zemo" from Fury 8, by Lee & Ayers. This story introduced Percy. (6/13)

THE AVENGERS (103, September). Roy Thomas, Rich Buckler, and Joe Sinnott. The second part of the Sentinals story with the Avengers vs. the Sentinals, Quicksilver and Larry Trask, The Vision and the Grim Reaper, and tons of other subplots. (6/13)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (5, September). Presenting a new series of Avengers reprints beginning with "The Avengers Break-Up" from No. 10 by Lee & Kirby starring Thor, Cap, Iron Man, Giant Man and the Wasp. (6/13)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (153, September). Steve Englehart takes over the scripting and introduces new life to the series: Sharon quits SHIELD, Cap gets a little happiness, and a surprise on the last page (no peaking!). Art by Sal Buscema. (6/13)

TWO-GUN KID (106, September). (6/13)

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CONAN THE BARBARIAN (18, September). "The Kingdom Of The Dead", the second half of "The Gods Of Bal-Sagoth" by REHoward. Script by Roy Thomas, art by Gil Kane and Dan Adkins. (6/20)

RAWHIDE KID (103, September). (6/20)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (4, September). Spidey teams up with the X-Men (sans the Beast) to battle Morbius. The X-Men, by the by, are in their old costumes. Script by Gerry Conway, art by Gil Kane with inks by Steve Mitchell, a new inker. (6/20)

MY LOVE (19, September). (6/20)

AMAZING ADVENTURES (14, September). The Beast tackles Quasimodo (remember ye olde living computer?) and learns more about the various mysteries in the

book. Steve Englehart script, art by Tom Sutton and Jim Mooney. I believe that Iron Man guest stars, too. (6/20)

RINGO KID (16, September). (6/20)

RED WOLF (3, September). Gardner Fox, Syd Shores, and Vince Colletta. "The War Of The Wolf Brothers" breaks out as Red Wolf leads a wolfpack into action. (6/20)

MARVEL FEATURE (5, September). Ant-Man in "Fear's The Way He Dies" by Mike Friedrich and Herb Trimpe (pencils and inks). Hank tackles Egghead, his all-time (and costume) foe. Plus a new costume for Ant-Man, composed of a red shirt and white pants with white side stitching. Janet Pym appears in this issue. (6/20)

MARVEL TALES (37, September). Spidey "In The Clutches Of The Kingpin" from Spidey 51. Lee & Romita. (6/20)

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FANTASTIC FOUR (126, September). Roy Thomas, John Buscema, and Joe Sinnott. The origin off the Fantastic Four is retold and they have another battle with the Molr Man. (6/27)

SGT. FURY (102, September). Gary Friedrich, Dick Ayers, and Vince Colletta. The Howlers vs. a criminal group which is printing phony Allied currency in Italy. (6/27)

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE (19, September). Gullivar Jones, Warrior Of Mars vs. the Red Barbarians for the life of Heru. Script by George Alec Effinger, art by Wayne Boring, Jim Mooney, and Gil Kane (Boring pencils). (6/27)

LI'L PALS (1, September). (6/27)

CAPTAIN MARVEL (22, September). The Kree super-hero is back for a third try at success. Script by Gerry Conway, art by Wayne Boring and Frank Giacoia. The CM-Rick situation is back to the wrist-clanging bit as the Captain meets Megaton, the nuclear murderer. (6/27)

TOMB OF DRACULA (4, September). Archie Goodwin, Gene Colan, Tom Palmer. Dracula accquires a partner and a strange mirror which is a gateway to the past. (6/27)

MARVEL PREMIERE (4, September). Doctor Strange in "Murder By Magic". Strange battles serpent men and the Spawn of Sliggulth. Archie Goodwin, Barry Smith, inks by Frank Brunner. (6/27)

KULL THE CONQUEROR (4, September). "The Night Of The Red Slayers", plotted by John Jakes, scripted by Gerry Conway, art by the Severins. (6/27)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (1, September). Continuing the Werewolf's encounter with the girl who has eyes like a Gorgon. Conway & Ploog. (6/27)

Coming Comics

OUR ARMY AT WAR (248, August). Sgt. Rock and Easy Comany in "Firing Squad", by Bob Khaniger and Russ Heath. The story involves the execution of some of Easy's men. (6/1)

THE FOREVER PEOPLE (10, September). The Deadman saga is wound up as Boston Brand gains the body of a 'follower' and begins a new quest for his killer. The title villains of the story are "The Scavengers", Deadman's new foes. Oh yes --The Forever People fight the Scavenger group too. By Jack Kirby & Mike Royer. (6/1)

FALLING IN LOVE (135, August). (6/1)

GHOSTS (7, August). "The Sweet Smell Of Death", "A President Is Told:Touch Not This Tomb" (a true story involving Pres. Johnson), and "Death's Finger Points." Cover by Mw Kaluta. (6/1)

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YOUNG ROMANCE (185, August). (6/6)

GI COMBAT (155, September). The Haunted Tank begins its "Long Journey" back to the Allied lines from Russia. Also "Ashcan Alley". Lead story by Bob Khaniger and Sam Glanzman. (6/6)

THE WITCHING HOUR (22, August). "The Haunted Hands Of Guilt", art by Win Mortimer; "13 Rue Morgue", art by John Calnan and Jack Abel; and "Please Kill Me", art by Bob Brown and Dan Adkins. (6/6)

TARZAN PRESENTS THE WEIRD WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS (1, September). In the future this book is being called Weird Worlds in this mag, so don't get confused. John Carter Of Mars in "Trial Of Fear" by Marv Wolfman and Murphy Anderson. David Innes Of Pellucidar in "The Arena Of Sudden Death" by Len Wein and Alan Lee Weiss. Cover by Joe Kubert of the John Carter story. Denny O'Neil editor of this new book. (6/8)

WEIRD WESTERN TALES (13, September). Jonah Hex in "The Killer Goes East" by John Albano and Tony DeZuniga. Also a story of El Diablo by Steve Skeates and Neal Adams (10 pgs, I think). (6/8)

FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN (18, September). The cover, by Mike Kaluta, illustrates "The Hitch Hiker Of Space". The Star Rovers begin their tenancy with "Who Saved The Earth?" by Sid Greene from Mystery In Space 80. Hey, new fans,did you know that Sid Greene slipeda cameo of Julie Schwartz into almost every sf story he ever did? In the last SR reprint it was on pg. 5, panel 2. This one doesn't have one tho. Rounding out the issue is "Man In The Mystery Mask", an Infantino-illoed reprint. (6/8)

SUPERMAN (255, September). "The Sun Of Superman", a story about the origin and 're-birth' of the planet Krypton by Cary Bates, Swan & Anderson. The World Of Krypton story is "It Could Only Happen On Krypton" by Dick Giordano. (6/8)

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SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE (6, September). Introducing Eve, the 100-year old hostess of the Sinister House. Stories in this issue are: "When Is Tomarrow Yesterday?" (script by Sheldon Mayer, art by Alfredo Alcala), "Brief Reunion" and "Man Hater". (6/13)

YOUNG LOVE (98, August). (6/13)

THE FLASH (217, September). Now bi-monthly. "The Flash Times Five Is Fatal" by Len Wein and Irv Novick and Dick Giordano is the lead. Plus the first of the new adventures of Green Lantern & Green Arrow -- "The Killing Of An Archer", in which GA's killing of a man is dealt with realistically. By Denny O'Neil, Neal Adams, and Dick Giordano. (6/13)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (99, August). The lead story is "Beyond The Imagination" which guest stars practically the whole NPP office. Also: "Beat The Devil" and "Goodbye, Nancy". Now monthly. (6/15)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (164, September). Dan Spiegel's second and last story of The Unknown Soldier -- "The Remittance Man". Plus a very special, very beautiful story by Bob Khaniger & Alex Toth -- "White Dog...Yellow Devil", the first installment in a new, wandering series called "Bob Khaniger's Gallery Of War." (6/15)

THE NEW GODS (10, September). The Forager joins Orion and Lightray in defending "The Earth--The Doomed Dominion" against the forces of the creature called Mantis. (6/15)

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS (213, September). Now bi-monthly. Superman and The Atom in "Peril In A Very Small Place", the story of a world within a telephone wire. Script by Elliot Maggin, art by Dick Dillin and Joe Giella. Cover by Nick Cardy. (6/15)

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JIMMY OLSEN (152, September). This issue resolves the conflict between the two Morgan Edges with "The Two-Edged Sword". (6/20)

BATMAN (243, August). Batman continues his war against Ra's Al Ghul in "The Lazarus Pit", a book-length story by Denny O'Neil, Neal Adams, and Dick Giordano. Robin makes an appearance in this issue. (6/20)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (205, August). In this issue: "Coffin Creature", "Phony Face", and "Over The High Side". (6/20)

LOIS LANE (125, August). The mystery of Karen is explored as Lois tackles "The Spike Helmet Gang". The Rose & Thorn story begun last issue continues. (6/22)

HEART THROBS (144, August). (6/22)

THE DEMON (1, September). Introducing Jason Blood, The Demon, in the first portion of his two-part origin story. The story travels from King Arthur's Court to today and is supposed to be the first super-hero gothic. New from the Kirby comic mill. (6/22)

THE UNEXPECTED (138, August). "The Strange Secret Of The Huan-Shan Idol" with pencils and inks by Wally Wood; "Murder Machine" by Artie Saaf; and "Shadow Of The Devil Doll" and "An Old Chinese Custom", two stories by foriegn artists. (6/22)

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TARZAN OF THE APES (211, August). This issue is a special reprint issue to give Kubert a chance to rest. It has a couple of pages of new material by Kubert but is mainly a reprinted story by Burne Hogarth from the Sunday pages of the forties. (6/27)

JUSTICE LEAGUE of AMERICA (100, August). This is it folks -- "The Unknown Soldier Of Victory". That's the name on the grave that the JLA members discover and they set off on a quest to find out who it is. Script by Len Wein, art by Dillin & Giella. First of three parts starring The entire JLA, Adam Strange, Elongated Man, Metamorpho, Zatanna, JSAers Dr Fate, Dr Mid Nite, Hourman, Johnny Thunder, Red Tornado, Sandman, Starman, Wildcat, & Wonder Woman, and the Seven Soldiers Of Victory: Crimson Avenger, Green Arrow, Shining Knight, Star Spangled Kid, Vigilante, Speedy and Stripsey. That's 32 Super-heroes! (6/27)

GIRLS' LOVE STORIES (172, August). (6/27)

SUPERBOY (189, August). "The Curse Of The Hangman's Noose" is the lead story of Superboy. Rounding out the issue is "The Runaway Superbaby". Both stories by Brown & Anderson. (6/27)

INFERIOR FIVE (11, September). The first of two issues reprinting National's super-hero parodies. This issue, from Showcase 62, comes "The Coming Of The Costumed Incompetants", the story of a second-generation team of super-heroes. Script by Nelson Bridwell, art by Joe Orlando & Mike Esposito. (6/29)

DETECTIVE COMICS (426, August). Batman in "Killer's Roulette" a Frank Robbins script/art job. The Elongated Man returns to Detective Comics with "The Trail Of The Fadeaway Footprints" by Len Wein and Dick Giordano. Cover by Kaluta. (6/29)

ACTION COMICS (415, August). Superman in "Meet The Metropolis Monster" by Cary Bates, Swan & Anderson. Metamorpho stars in "Fill My Grave With Money" by John Calan and Bob Haney. (6/29)

ADVENTURE COMICS (422, August). Supergirl battles an indestructable robot in a story by Sekowsky & Oskner. The Vigilante in "Rodeo" by Gray Morrow. (6/29)

THE MONSTER TIMES 11 -June 7- Planet Of The Apes by Allan Asherman, Conan Of The Comix by Mike Uslan, and the first part of the blood series.

THE MONSTER TIMES 12 - June 21 - Gorgo.

MAD MAGAZINE 153

NATIONAL LAMPOON 27

CREEPY 47 - June 22 - "Land Of Bone", "Futurization Computation", "The Beginning" and "Law And Disorder".

VAMPIRELLA 18 - June 13 - "Dracula Still Lives", "Won't Get Fooled Again", and "Kali".

REUBEN AWARDS

The National Cartoonists Society gave their Reuben Awards out on April 25; Milton Caniff (Steve Canyon) - grand prize; John Gallagher (magazine gags); Allan Jaffee (Mad Fold-In - Special Features); Bill Keane (Family Circus-syndicated panel); Gil Kane (Spiderman-comic book); Bob Gustafson (Beetle Bailey-humor); Eric Gurney (ad illustration); Pat Oliphant (editorial cartoons); Karl Hebenthal (sports); Brent Parker (Wizard Of Id-humor); John Cullen Murphy (Prince Valient & Big Ben Bolt - story strip).

FAN

The classified ad pages in DCs have been killed with the August issues. /// The Mike Catron Show is a new fanzine on tape. Mike will be recording pro & fan interviews and selling them as tapes. The first tape is a one-hour interview with Sal Buscema, future tapes will run 90 minutes. They're on cassetes, cartridges, and reel-to-reel. Watch for an ad in Buyers' Guide for details. /// T. Casey Brennan reports leaving the Warren Publishing firm on an amiable basis, and will be working for the Monster Times and other horror pubs. /// Ace Books (1120 Ave Of The Americas, NY, NY) has the entire Pellucidar & Venus serieses in print, 60¢ per copy (7 Pellucidar books, 4 Venus) for ERB-comix fans who need them. Add 10¢ per book on orders of less than 5 books. /// Comic & Crypt 6 is out, 75¢, 52 pgs, Ken Barr cover and many features. Dealers rates are available cause Mark wants to sell out fast. See his ad in E/T 82 for adress & details.

The 2nd edition of the Comic Book Price Guide is out. A beautiful volume and very useful. The cost is $6. Mistakes are still present but the volume is a terrific reference work. See ads in RBCC and elsewhere. ///

BACK ISSUES OF ETCETERA & T.C.R.

Etc. 4, 5, 7 -- 25¢ per copy.

Etc./T.C.R. 80, 81, 82, 83, 84 -- 20¢ a copy.

Order form on page 18...

UNDERGROUNDS

NEWS & REVIEWS

BUD PLANT

GENERAL NEWS: Very little has come out in the past few weeks, but much is promised by the publishers. Of special interest is the trend that seems to be appearing toward better humor (not necessarily sex-oriented) and science-fantasy strips. Books like Slow Death and Skull are doing well, with their slant towards horror and fantasy, and this is a welcome change from the glut of bad books that have come out in the past year or so. All underground comics, even the bad titles, have a ready market and sell moderately well to great. This has unforuneately precipitated a number of bad titles (especially from Print Mint) that are just put out to make a quick buck off a booming market.

PRINT MINT: This is the largest of the underground publishers and has the most titles in print. Their books tend to appear unexpectedly but they put out the majority to the bad comics (most recently: Rubber Duck Tales). Roger Brand's two new comics will be out soon: Tales Of Sex And Death No.2 and Real Pulp No.2, both of which are competently done titles. Greaser No.2, which is based on 1950's life, will be published back east but distributed by Print Mint. The much advertised Zap No.6 is still being drawn up; Moscoco, Crumb, and Robert Williams have finished their strips but Griffin still has to do his, if he does one. Zap is a very personal book for these guys and they try to put their best into it, which is why it appears infrequently.

RIP OFF PRESS: These guys have the largest percentage of good books, and are responsible for getting Richard Corben into the undergrounds. Their newest book is Amazon by Foolbert (Adventures Of Jesus) Sturgeon, which is an enjoyable tale based on real legend concerning the Amazons' first encounter with the Greeks in the 10 Years War. Fantagor No.2 will have lots of new work by Corben and though delayed, should be out within a month. It will also sport 16 pages of interior color and cost $1, as will Up From The Deep No.2 with Corben and Jason. Co. & Sons is another underground publisher that has gone bankrupt. Their two half-completed titles, Cheech Wizard by Vaughn Bodé and Armorkins by Larry Todd, will probably be finished by Rip Off. Cheech will contain more Bodé reprints, similar to his Junkwaffel No.s 1 & 2 from Print Mint. Todd's comic will be heavily sf oriented, with strange little aliens and the like. Co. & Sons leave a very small legacy: HeeHee, Honky Tonk, Bogeyman No.3, and their best title, Young Lust No.1.

LAST GASP: A newcomer to the field, these people promise the most in the next month or so: Skull 4, Young Lust 3 (in full color for $1), Dopin' Dan, and Brain Fantasy with material by George Metzger. More is forthcoming from Metzger. In the more distant future is Slow Death 4.

OTHER PUBLISHERS: Milwaukee's Kitchen Sink/Krupp Comic Works has a habit of advertising books but never publishing them, i.e. Smile 2, Googiewaumer 2, and All Carp Comics. Smile 2 appears to be close to publication, but the others may have been scrapped. A new $1 edition of Deep3D is due, and Jay Lynch writes that they will reprint Bijou 1-3 sometime soon. Snarf by Jim Mitchell (Kitchen's best artist) is out but I haven't seen it yet.///Dennis Cunningham, who started the fanzine Weirdom way, way back turned it into an underground with 14 and a 15 is due very soon. It will feature a reprinted early Corben strip and numerous Corben 1-pagers.

Underground comics are available thru their publishers or from me, if you wish write for a listing. They are for those 18 or older only. Bud Plant, 4160 San Jose Drive, San Jose, Ca 95127.

Bud Plant will return with another look at the underground comic scence in the July issue. His column will become a regular, monthly feature beginning with the September issue, when Bud has finished making the rounds of the summer comic conventions.

NEXT ISSUE:

JULY CON PROGRESS REPORT TWO
WANDERING FAN BY TONY ISABELLA
COMIC & FANZINE REVIEWS
NEWS OF PHASE II & THE COMICS
FAN NEWS & HAPPENINGS

THE ULTIMATE CONVENTION:

THE Sonny Tufts Memorial Trivia Contest

STEVE UTLEY

"What this convention needs," grumbled I to George Proctor or Bob Stahl or the carpet in the corridors, "is a good orgasm."

To be both perfectly honest and fair to Robert Brown, Don Maris and the other secret masters of the Oklahoma Alliance of Fandom, my cranium had the consistency of cooked cauliflower throughout thier three-day Spring Nostalgia Con in derrick-dotted Oklahoma City. Such grey matter of mine as had not turned into lumpy porridge during the trip from Dallas County began breaking down into its basic components on the second day of the affair as the great-grandfather of all headaches, brought upon by the second annual Dallas/Houston feud and news of at least two major rip-offs in the dealers' room, gradually descended the length of my spine, rupturing vertabrae at the rate of one per quarter-hour. Maybe, in view of my physically dissipated state, it just SEEMED that I was not the only zombie wandering past the hucksters' tables, that I was not the sole stiffening corpse carried out by the Habana Inn staff sometime Sunday.

There were, after all, moments of joy and wonder--Brown's announcement that Will Eisner had consented to manifest himself at the OAF's Multicon this summer; the long, noisy, totally ridiculous arguments about the likely outcome of an arm-wrestling contest between Tarzan and Conan; discussions with Okie fan Ken Rogers about what a different story the Great Indian Exterminations of the last century might be could we but go back in time to to equip the Amerindians with Fokker D-VII planes and the wherewithal to employ them efficiently; Richard Crane coming on like Captain Future in the hokey old Rocky Jones, Space Ranger television episode our hosts had dredged up for presentation alongside The Lone Ranger, The Purple Death From Outer Space and so forth. But the convention proper shut down around midnight or one dclock-just about the time a self-respecting fan comes into his second or third wind-and drove one and all up to rooms for interminable games of poker and late show resurrections of IT! The Terror From Beyond Space. It was part of the agreement with the Habana Inn management and everybody had to make the best of it.

Sacked out in bed with the sleeping Lana while three fairly well done in friends cluttered up the floor, I made a token effort to salvage what I could of the weekend. "Kostura? Crenshaw?" A couple of sleepy yeah-whaddya-wants. "Stahl?" A belch. "In what novel did Tarzan perfect self rising flour?"

Bill Kostura sat up too quickly and bloodied his head on the underside of the vanity dresser under which he had elected to bed down. "I read the Tarzan books and I never--"

"Aw,c'mon, you mean you missed The Yeasts of Tarzan?"

Everyone save Lana was immeadiately wide awake and fighting to be tne first to the toilet bowl.

"That, Utley, was HORRIBLE. But it reminds me," and at this point I steeled myself and swore to seek out and destroy whichever one of them it was that was about to spring some new horror, "I've obtained a hitherto unpublished memoir by one of Mae West's old boy friends, pertaining t a week of record-breaking love-making. The title is Seven Days In Mae."

"What a time to get caught with my puns down!" wailed someone else.

So it went, far into what little remained of the night. Randall Larson jokes. Jokes about Kostura's socks.The Cosmic Do-Do Joke. It was the needed orgasm about which I had been darkly muttering into the beard I don't have. Finally, however, I decided that the time had come to let fly with my perennial stumper.

"Who was Sonny Tufts?"

And rolled over to fall at once into something resembling a coma.

They tackled me in the parking lot Sunday afternoon,my three erstwhile roommates did, and pinned me to the asphalt. None of them had had any sleep at all,thanks to me,and all were sorely vexed. "Well?" they demanded in unison. "Who was Sonny Tufts? WELL?"

"Okay guys," said I with a smile, "I give. Who was Sonny Tufts?"

I get out of the hospital next Monday.

----------(30)----------

This represents a further step in my plan to one day whip out the convention report to end convention reports.Rather than relate what happened exactly as it happened, I've tried to capture the feel of the affair in question.

CURRENT SCHOOLS OF COMIC ART-PART II

Of all the tendencies in pro comic art today, the Marvel house style is the most devilishly commercial and inhibiting to the development of individual talent. This is uncool cause unless the industry gives new talent a chance to breathe, the NY pro scene will have trouble remaining afloat. No one person is to blame for the stagnation at Marvel Comics. It is the logical conclusion of how the comic pros think.

Marvel has always had a strong tendency to a house look which isn't surprising. Both Lee and Goodman were in control of Timely in the forties. That company was hit as badly with an ungainly overall style of artwork and writing as characterized many of the lesser companies at that time.

To talk about Marvel is to talk about Kirby. That he was a vitalizing force in the line, there is no doubt; possibly more-so than Lee. However, for all the time he worked there and influenced the other artists, no one ever made more than a superficial analysis of Kirby's effective drawing. Everyone knew that he made the three register grid+ look like the only choice for comics, that every panel had activity and power, and that his fight scenes had real movement and drama, but no one made a study of these features to understand them and set them in motion in his own work. The other Marvel artists were content to imitate him in only the most superficial way.

This situation began long before Kirby packed his bags and left for the opposite coast, but when he left, the many half-baked synthesises of Kirby were still the strongest identity that Marvel had and they set in like rigor mortis over the books. As you recall, John Romita, John Buscema, and Neal Adams were called in not for their own merits as artists, but for their supposed ability to imitate Kirby successfully. This general confusion took its next step towards degeneration when this pooling of talents resulted in the extraction of their most energetic qualities into a new synthesis of style that could be employed by all the artists in the Marvel line.

+ ⊞

Itmight be fun to try and pick out the elements from this synthesis that could logically be attributed to individual artists, but it would serve no good end. It will be more instructive to point out the most characteristic features of the style.

The style is liable to an overabundance of energy to the point of appearing frenzied and uncoördinated.

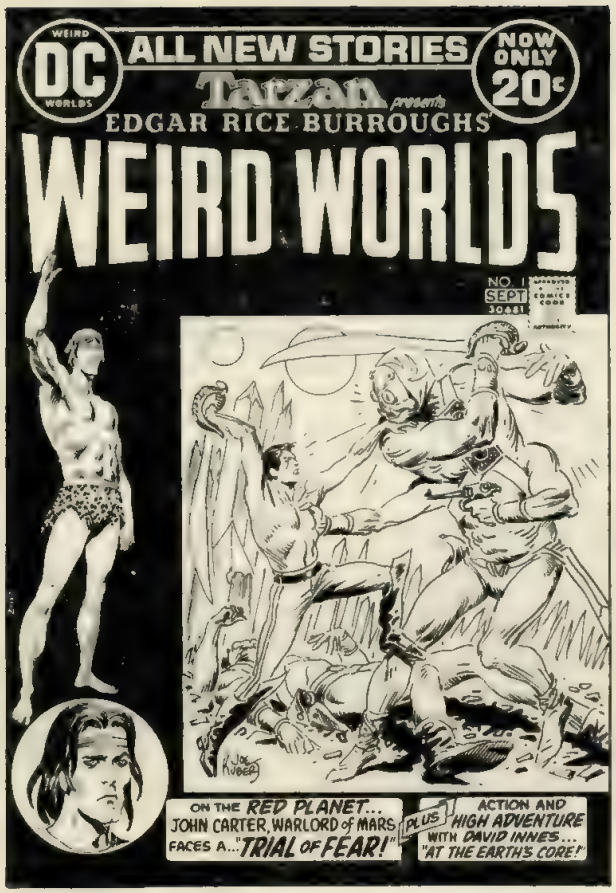
Contrast is practically nil between scenes and even between panels. Each is so crammed with the same type of hyped up energy that it's difficult to discern why things are happening. In an effort to be exciting, the artists try to include as many straining tortured faces, wild excruciating postures, star busts and speed lines, dramatic jumps in scale, as space will allow. Taken together, the whole is usually grotesque in my opinion.

The problem is that the pressure artists at Marvel feel to use this style; and I would bet there is considerable pressure from above, directly inhibits their own originality. Imitating another artistic standard is bound to be a distraction to the end of expressing one's self-honesty. Gil Kane is the best example of what I mean. No one is going to remember any of his work at Marvel as being his best over his DC work that he pencilled and inked or his Undersea Agents which he did both on and may have had a hand in writing. There is quite a bit of Kane's work that I greatly admire. He does have an alive and energetic style. But his current work for Marvel is minus his inherent strengths and strong fantasy sense. His current work seems too willing to conform to that of the other more established Marvel artists and has lost most of its impact.

Neal Adams' Avengers are equally disappointing. In his attempt to capture the Marvel frenzy, he has lost sight of his basic composure and sense of design.

Barry Smith's Conan is the only Marvel work since Kirby left that has been allowed to develop naturally free of the compulsive Marvel madness. Most of us would agree, I think, that his Conans are the best that Marvel has produced in some time. This should point the way to

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE...



COVER GALLERY

Weird Worlds (c) 1972 ERB, Inc
Demon & Swamp (c) 1972 National

RADAR IN THE VOID by TOM GREENIONES
continued

allowing other artists greater freedom also.

Bad as all this is, the situation does not look promising in the near future. Apparently Marvel is governed by business minded men who typically believe the best, or at least most profitable course is to stick with a good thing until it's milked dry; then it's time to look for a new direction.

The recent turnover in writers could be a good sign. Possibly they will have the foresight to introduce new ideas and the courage and concentration to nurse them to fruitition. If so, they can't begin too soon.

POSTSCRIPT: There is a constructive and interesting side to the Marvel house look, mess that it is, but it extends too much into sociology to go into here. If anyone's interested, let me know.

PROGRESS REPORT

HONORED GUESTS

The multi-talented JACK KIRBY will be one of two guests of honor at the convention luncheon. The other guest has yet to be chosen. Biography of Kirby by Denny O'Neil will be in the Program book.

LUNCHEON

The number of seats at the luncheon is limited so we suggest that you reserve your seats immeadiately. The luncheon tickets will not be mailed to you, nor will the membership cards. All this must be picked up when you arrive at the convention.

PROGRAM BOOK

The Program Book will be 96 pages with a square-back binding and is a beautiful piece of work. The ad deadline is May 1 because of the printing time involved.

FILMS

Film shows will be on Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday from 10 PM to 6 AM. Already scheduled are some fine amateur films, the Harryhausen films, King Kong, Captain Marvel and much, much more. Bring your own popcorn.

HOTEL

Send all hotel reservations to Phil--NOT to the Statler-Hilton.

DEALERS

All dealers will get a letter of information and instruction about two weeks before the con. Please do not send in any questions as they will all be answered by the letter. Order your tables now because choice locations are being given on a first-come, first-served.

COSTUME PARADE

Bigger than ever in participation & in awards. First, second and third prizes will be savings bonds. Address for registration next issue.

PROGRESS REPORTS

The 1972 Comic Art Convention Progress Reports will be published only in Etc-TCR.

EXHIBITS, EVENTS & PANELS

Art exhibits at this years convention will include full displays by Kirby, Bodé, and Jeff Jones. More is in the works but isn't definate yet.

"The World Of Comic Books" -- Comics from all over the globe in their various shapes, sizes, and languages.

Popeye Exhibit -- a display of strips, books, games, toys, original artwork, etc. featuring this great cartoon character.

Auctions -- one every single day!

Bill Gaines -- the publisher of EC comics and new consultant to NPP will field questions from the audience concerning his role in comics history.

Christopher Rush -- a new personality on records and in nightclubs gives us his views on the comic book scene.

More next month...

LOCATION

The convention will occupy the entire second floor of the hotel this year. That's two or three ballrooms plus about ten smaller exhibit rooms. It's gonna be a big gathering!

AMATEUR ART CONTEST

For details write: Chris Goldberg, 5 Martin Lane, Old Bethpage, NY 11804 or call 516-249-3738.

FANZINE SALES

Display and sell your zine to all the folk at the convention for only $5. Copies may be given to Paul Levitz at the con or mailed to him if you can't make it. You get 100% of cover price on each copy. Recommended batch is 25 copies.

MEMBERSHIP

Those who register in advance are the lucky ones! Why?

First--they get their name listed in the program book.

Second--when they get to the con they can use the pre-registered line which moves much faster and thus gets into the dealers room faster.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN
PHIL SEULING
621 AVENUE Z
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11223

FAN NEWS

Tales From The Crypt has moved to local outlets here in New York after spending some three weeks at first run movie houses in Manhatten. Reviews have been good, but the version running in the theatres has some of the gore cut out, according to some people who saw private showings before the premiere. Jack Oleck's novelization of the movie is available in a 75¢ paperback.

Robert E. Howard's "Dark Man and others", a collection of some of Howard's non-series and minor series characters' stories, has been issued in a new paperback edition by Lancer Books, 1560 Broadway, NY, NY, 10036. Cover cost is 95¢ but send an additional 10¢ when ordering by mail. Code no. 75265.

There will be no progress reports, per se, from Phil Seuling's July con this year. All progress and information will be reported right here in Etcetera/TCR. There is some news hidden further on in this column.

"Fritz The Cat" opened April 5th in Los Angeles after a smash preview sometime earlier.

"The Heart Of Juliet Jones" will be a network daytime soap opera.

Don Glut, a Gold Key writer, has just finished a 140,000 word manuscript on "The Legend Of Frankenstein". It has not yet been sold to a publisher.

Chuck McNaughton has left his post as editor of The Monster Times and will be replaced by Allan Asherman.

The Los Angeles Times had a 3 page adaptation of Ray Bradbury's "Martian Chronicles" in cartoon form with art by Doug Wildey, Joe Mugnaini, and John Cassone. The 3 pages plus a one page article on Bradbury are available for 50¢ each copy from:Los Angeles Times, Times Mirror Sq., Los Angesles, Ca 90053.

HEY! A public thank you to Bill Lund,the chairman of the San Diego Con, for keeping this page chock full of news items from the West Coast.

There's been talk of a replacement for George, the review-zine, coming from San Diego.

VOTE REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR VOTE IN THE GOETE AWARDS! VOTE NOW!

King Features-Hearst Metrotone News announced a number of movies, tv series ventures, and other projects. They are producing, for ABC-TV, a "Saturday Morning At The Movies" series which will include Popeye, Flash Gordon, Hi & Lois, Snuffy Smith, Blondie, Mandrake, Little King, Phantom, and Tim Tyler. Tyler will become a series produced in co-operation with RAI of Italy and Bavaria TV of Germany. There will be 19 half-hour shows. Syndication isn't set.

The Phantom will become a movie. Production will begin in July in England. Flash Gordon and Mandrake may be done as movies or as tv features.

"History Of Cartoons" is a one hour special in preperation.

The San Diego West Coast Comic Con is set for August 4-6, no site set yet. Bloch will be a guest of honor. Kirby will contribute an art display. 2001, Psycho, and The Day The Earth Stood Still will be shown. Membership:$4 advance till July 21; $5 at the door; $2 daily membership; $1.50 supporting. Write:SanDiegoCon, POB 23182, San Diego, Ca 92123.

Bill Lund is putting out a zine called Epic Phantasy. 1 will include a Hamilton/Brackett interview, a 'special' feature on Superman in the media, &more, No details yet.

The Parade Mag supplement to Oakland Trib ran on 4/9 an articled called "Flash Gordon Goes To College" which delt with the Indiana University comic art course. Many colleges have comic art courses but here's one getting publicity.

The NY Post featured an article on a new NY Comic exhibit on 4/11. Jerry Robinson is the organizer and the exhibit is at the Graham Galleries, 1014 Madison until Apr 29. I'll try and get to it and write up a couple of paragraph report for the next issue.

Rich Kyle of Graphic Story World reports that No. 6 will feature a long Dan Spiegle interview, a previously unpublished Kirby-Olsen cover, and something that Rich lists as a "Special kind of item." No. 7 will include an interview with Lennard Starr of "On Stage", and the tryout sequence of syndicated strip by two well-known professionals. Both issues will also feature the usual beautiful features on the parts of comics that go beyond the mere comic books.

HAPPENINGS

By JOE BRANCATELLI

Personally, I despise long introductions. Suffice to say that the name's Joe Brancatelli, commonly called BRANC, and every so often I'll fill you in on the little items that appear around the field that you might normally not see...Jeff Jones has quietly drawn up a storm for SWANK magazine. Starting with the April is sue, he's been drawing two-page color strips of a rather bawdy nature for the PLAYBOY imitation. He writes,draws, and colors the whole thing and it is beautiful. Not far from the quality of LITTLE ANNIE FANNY...And speaking of Playboy, (who was speaking of Playboy), Skip Williamson did a strip for the Hefner magazine and it appeared in the May issue... "The paper of record," THE NEW YORK TIMES, inundated it's prestigious magazine THE SUNDAY TIMES MAGAZINE. It concerned itself with the upcoming electoral campaign, and had a POGO piece by Walt Kelly, a SPIDER-MAN piece by Lee and Romita , a L'IL ABNER piece by Al Capp (or his ghost)

...And in case you"ve never known why the TIMES never had comics, the explanation is rather simple. Adolph Ochs, who bought the then bankrupt TIMES in 1896, wanted make the TIMES the best paper in the world, and he didn't want to resort to circulation builders like fiction and comics. His first act as new publisher was to fire the fiction writer...Allan Asherman has replaced the resigned Chuck McNaughton as editor of THE MONSTER TIMES. No changes are planned...I don't like talking about THE MONSTER TIMES, mainly because I'm the Managing Editor, but I might remind you that the ninth issue has an article on sf comics by Gary Brown, the tenth issue is our special EC issue, and we've loads of comic articles on tap...Here is a very, very interesting note. NEWSDAY, Long Island's six-day-a-week newspaper, perhaps one of the best paper's in the country, recently added a Sunday edition (the first being April 9th). It's a rather highbrow newspaper, and was having trouble finding good comics. The ones you would expect to find in such a quality newspaper, like B.C., PEANUTS, POGO and WIZARD OF ID were already being carried by the competing LONG ISLAND PRESS. So NEWSDAY contacted King Feature Syndicate and got the rights to old comics. Wanna hear which ones? Okay, KRAZY KAT, BRINGING UP FATHER and JUNGLE JIM (Of course, by Raymond!) They run only one tabloid page, no color, but beggars can't be choosers. You may try picking up a copy from NEWSDAY, Garden City, Long Island, New York. Price is 30¢ per copy, but better include some postage... Maurice Horn informs us that there are some new table accessories (table napkins and the like) featuring such cartoon characters like the KATZENJAMMER KIDS (by Knerr) and FLASH GORDON (by Raymond). We have no furthur information on that...FLASHBACK number two is now out. It's a movie magazine, but a literate one, on a rather intellectual level. The cover is by Jack Davis (a full color job) portraying Basil Rathbone, Olivia De Haviland and Errol Flynn in a duel. The inside back cover is a tremendous job by Mort Drucker. Inside is an ad reproducing Jack Davis' first issue FLASHBACK cover as a poster. Worth the bread. Get FLASHBACK from PO Box 567, Brookline Village, Mass. 02147. 60¢ per copy, 6 issues for $3.60. And to furthur convince you, there is a four page KING KONG strip that is excellent, and I refuse to say more...Jerry Robinson is presently showing an exhibit of comic art at the GRAHAM GALLERIES (1016 Madison Avenue, NYC). We haven't been to it yet, but we hear it is quite good. Catalogue's available for $2 from the gallery...Mike Olshan and Frank Brunner are doing a strip for the New York based ROLLING STONE imitation, CRAWDADDY, called TALES OF LOST ATLANTIS. Very very nice...For all of you folks who have been ripped off by GOTHIC CASTLE, you might try calling WHBI radio, 105.9 in Jersey. Cal Beck (editor of CASTLE OF FRANKENSTEIN) has a radio show called HOUR OF FRANKENSTEIN (or something like that) on (get this) 3 to 5 a.m. on Tuesdays...Manny Maris has got a bunch of the old EC paperbacks and is selling them for $2 a piece (316 West 88th, NYC 10024)...MARBORO books recently had a bunch of the book collections of CHARLES ADDAMS' cartoons on sale for half price. Addams is the cartoonist who's done so much work for THE NEW YORKER, and his cartoons were the inspiration for THE ADDAMS FAMILY show of a few years back ...New book in the BEETLE BAILEY series is BEETLE BAILEY...ON PARADE,75¢, Tempo Books, New York, 10010. They are into the series which introduces Lt. Flap, who has got to be the best used black character in comics today...FRITZ THE CAT is finally out. The X-rated movie premiered on April 29th at three New York theatres to filled houses. Judith Crist reviewed it in NEW YORK magazine calling it, "...Fritz is enough to set Disney spinning in his grave, but it's funny, brilliantly pointed and executed entertainment..."...The Cleveland Indians baseball team uses a cartoony Indian as it's symbol. A public campaign was mounted to stop it's useage, and the team backed off...From the information we get, the SPIRIT MAGAZINE has been cancelled, or rather "indefinitely suspended until notice." However, both Eisner, his IPD publishing and Maurice Horn are working on a Spirit book to contain 40 stories...-30-

1972 COMIC ART CONVENTION

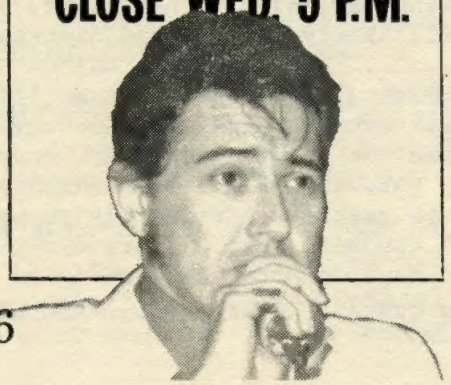
CONVENTION CHAIRMAN
PHIL SEULING
621 AVENUE Z
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11223

This year the Comic Art Convention celebrates its Fifth Anniversary! Five years of the grandest and most exciting events of the year for collectors, fans, and students of comic art, and for watchers of the current scene! Five big years . . . and the celebration will fit the occasion.

To be sure that we can fit everything in, we are running five full days, the first five days in July, five days of exhibits, award presentations, guests, movies, panels, slide shows, speakers, question-and-answer sessions, auctions, comic books for sale, art displays, and the chance to meet the people in the comic art scene!

This is the big one. This is where it all begins. This is the 1972 Comic Art Convention.

SAT. - JULY 1
SUN. - JULY 2
MON. - JULY 3
TUES. - JULY 4
WED. - JULY 5
10 A.M. TO 10 P.M.
CLOSE WED. 5 P.M.



★ MEMBERSHIP

Daily membership is $2.50 per day, available only at the door.

Regular membership covering all five days is $7.00

Special membership is free to you if you register at the Statler-Hilton during the convention. If you plan to stay at the hotel, fill in the attached Hotel Reservation Form and return it to the convention (not the hotel) and we will make your reservation for you.

Supporting (non-attending) membership is $2.50. Supporting members will receive the Program Book by mail. Supporting membership may be converted to regular membership at the door for an additional $4.50.

All members, regular, special, or supporting, who register in advance, will receive the program. Those who register before June 1st will be listed in order of registration in the program.

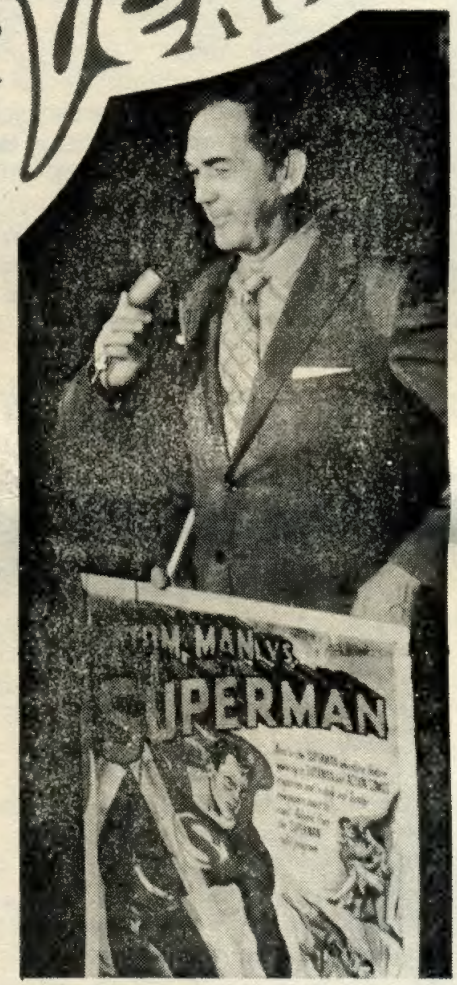
★ HOTEL

Special room rates for convention members are:

SINGLE:	19.00
DOUBLE OR TWIN:	25.00 (12.50 per person)
TRIPLE:	24.00 (8.00 per person)
QUAD:	28.00 (7.00 per person)

These special rates are below the regular Statler-Hilton rates and will apply to your full stay, whether it extends before or after the convention.

The fully air-conditioned Statler-Hilton is known as "The Most Complete Hotel" in New York City. It has over 2000 rooms and is centrally located across from Pennsylvania Station and the New Madison Square Garden—a few blocks from the Empire State Building and New York's great department stores. It's also conveniently located on all subway routes, and is a single subway stop from the Port Authority Bus Terminal.



★ LUNCHEON

There will be an Awards Luncheon to honor two special guests on Tuesday, July 4. Guests have not yet been selected, but will be in keeping with the All-Star cast honored at previous Comic Art Conventions.

Luncheon tickets are $7.50 and may be ordered in advance by using the attached coupon. It is possible that we will have a limit to the number of places at the luncheon, so that reserving your place well in advance would be a sound idea.

[ ] REGULAR MEMBERSHIPS @ 7.00 _____

[ ] SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIPS @ 2.50 _____

[ ] LUNCHEON TICKETS @ 7.50 _____

[ ] SPECIAL MEMBERSHIPS ENCLOSE FILLED OUT HOTEL FORM

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TOTAL $ ENCLOSED _____

★ ADVERTISING

The Program will be 96 pages, with square-back binding and covers in color. It will reach more than 4000 people. Ad rates are as follows:

	Professional	Fan
Double-Page Spread	100.00	60.00
Full Page	60.00	40.00
Half Page	40.00	25.00

★ TIMES

Friday evening, June 30. Pre-registration begins at 6:00 P.M.

Saturday through Tuesday, July 1-4. Convention opens daily at 10 A.M., closes down at 10 P.M., and there will be films, films, and films — Until 6 A.M.!

Wednesday, July 5, Opens 10 A.M., closes at 5:00 P.M.

★ DEALERS

Tables are available in two categories. It is up to you to decide which category you are in. No selling may take place anywhere at the Convention except in the dealers' area.

Full Dealers: a full-sized table for all five days is $50.00 until May. 15. After that date the price will go up to $60.00. Additional tables are the same price. Early notice will enable us to plan better and assure you of a good location. When all tables are sold, no further space can be created! Please note.

Junior Dealers: Small (Bridge) tables are available at $10.00 per day per table. For example, a table for two days is $20.00. Specify which days you want.

Please send dealer fees to Phil Seuling. You will receive further information regarding procedures some time before the Convention.

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION FORM

[] Single [] Double [] Twin [] Triple [] Quad

Please fill in names of all occupants.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State & Zip _____
Name _____
Address _____
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E7 () E/T81 ()
E/T82 ()
25¢ each E/T83 ()

TOTAL $

etc./t.c.r.85

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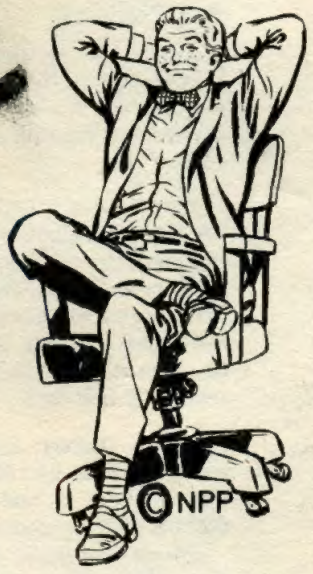

Glen Johnson
160 N 6 E St
Brigham City, Utah 84302

first class mail!